

The Ankeny Jaycees were the recipient of the 2010 **Service Club Award of Excellence** through the Iowa Park and Recreation Association.

The Ankeny Jaycees is a leadership and service organization designed for young professionals living in the community. As a non-profit dedicated to making Ankeny a better place to live, work, and play; the Jaycees have provided tremendous support over the past five years to the Ankeny Parks & Recreation Department. Consider the following support provided by the Ankeny Jaycees to Parks & Recreation since 2006:

- A \$25,000 gift to the Prairie Ridge Sports Complex Capital Campaign in 2007. This \$25,000 was a lead off gift and provided momentum to raise more than \$650,000 in cash and in-kind support from various Ankeny businesses, sport groups, and individuals. Had it not been for the Jaycees involvement early in the campaign, future fundraising success never would have been possible.
- Exclusive Sponsor of the Ankeny Youth Triathlon which in 2009 featured nearly 200 youth from 29 Iowa communities and four states. In its four years as exclusive sponsor, the Jaycees have provided \$14,000 in sponsorship funding plus significant volunteer assistance.
- Gift of picnic tables and grills for the Summerfest Shelter, Ankeny's largest outdoor public rental shelter.
- Organizes the annual Jaycees/Parks & Recreation "Easter Egg Hunt", providing all event organization, prizes, and volunteer support.
- Volunteers for Parks & Recreation's "Ankeny Unplugged Concert Series", spearheading concession sales and assisting in band selection, set up and clean up efforts.

With current economic conditions and City budget as they are, having a partner like the Ankeny Jaycees provides Parks & Recreation the opportunity to add value back into programs without having to raise program fees or cut back on the participant experience.